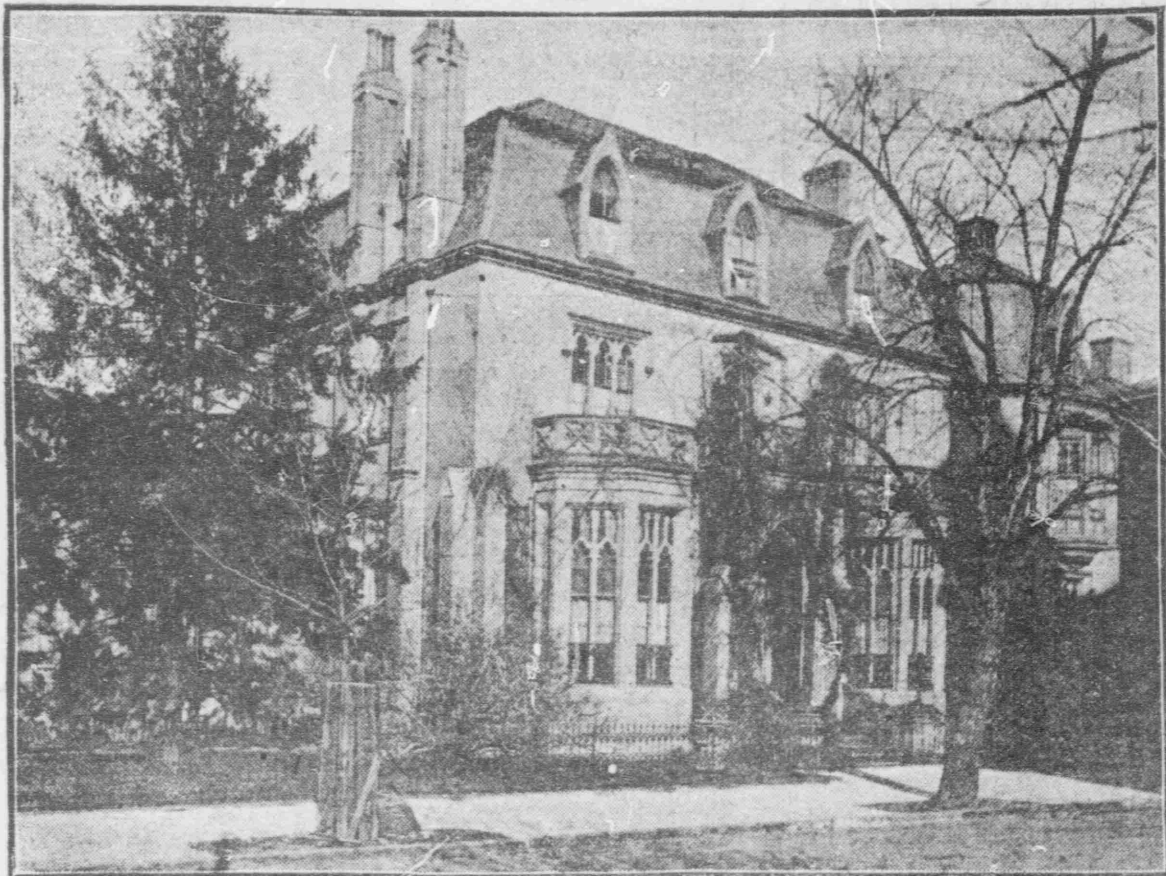


# BUILDING DISTRICTS ARE ACTIVE IN BUILDING AND TRANSFERS

## ARTISTIC CAPITAL RESIDENCE PASSES TO QUARTERS OF CLUB



Exterior View of the Historic Myer Residence.

Myer Home Sold as Site for Army and Navy Building.

Landmark of Washington Will Make Room for Handsome Structure.

With the passing of the old Myer place as a residence at the corner of Farragut Square and I street, which has just been purchased by the Army and Navy Club as a site on which to erect a new club building, one of the most interesting and at the same time artistic mansions in the city will become a thing of the past. For over half a century Washingtonians have admired the quaint Gothic structure, with its pretty grounds and trees, the whole suggesting a little piece of old English country life.

### Occupied by Ambassador.

And the house is more English than one would suppose, for many years, it was occupied by the English Ambassador to the United States, and in one of its rooms, the library on the second floor, in the southeastern corner of the building, the present King of England, Edward VII, once slept. That was in the year 1899, when the young Prince of Wales visited America and then occupied the place.

Accurate details of the history of the old house are difficult to obtain, for the reason that it passes the memory of Washingtonians now living. It is said, however, by members of the Myer family, who sold the property to the Army and Navy Club, that the house was built some years before the war, originally for a New York man by the name of Knapp. It was subsequently occupied as the British embassy and then as the Russian embassy. The Myer family consists of the three daughters and son of the late Brig. Gen. Albert J. Myer, who was chief signal officer from 1862 to 1880, and who was one of the founders of the weather service, he having devised the method of telegraphing the coming of storms now in use. The son, the Rev. Walden Myer, is a master at St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H.

### Gothic Architecture.

The house is a rare example of the revival of Gothic architecture that occurred in the latter half of the last century. It is the work of James Renwick, a noted New York architect, who, leading Washington architects say, was one of the most noted of his time. Among other notable buildings by this artist are the Smithsonian Institution, Vassar College, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Grace and Calvary churches in New York.

The Gothic style is adhered to throughout the interior and extends even to the stables. The interior is remarkable. Entering through a narrow hall, from which rooms open on the right and left one comes to a central rotunda. This rotunda extends to the roof. On the second floor is a gallery around which the doors to the bedrooms are ranged. From the rotunda on the first floor also are entrances to the other rooms. Everything is Gothic, the doors, the windows, the decorations, giving to the whole a most interesting and almost religious aspect of the old cathedrals of England. There are thirty-two rooms in all.

### Bachelor Club Quarters.

The house will presently be used by the club for bachelor quarters, as a new building is not in immediate contemplation. When the club does decide to erect a new home it will be one, as expressed by a member, that will last for all time.

There are 15,700 square feet in the property and the price paid was about \$550,000, making one of the most important real estate transactions in some time. The deal was made directly with the owners by a committee of the club, and then ratified by the membership.

### BRIGHTWOOD TRACT SOLD: TO BE HELD FOR WHILE

One of the largest transactions in suburban real estate about Washington for some time was the transfer last week of about 375,000 feet of ground in Brightwood to the Brightwood Building Corporation. The property is situated on and near Brightwood avenue and Eighth and Ninth streets, and belonged to the Beale heirs, the section being known as the Annie E. Beale subdivision.

Josiah M. Vale and Marion Butler are the president and vice president, respectively, of the corporation. Mr. Vale states that no immediate development of the property is contemplated.



INTERIOR OF THE OCTAGON ROOM IN THE MYER RESIDENCE.

### REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Washington Highlands—John M. Thorne et ux. to Annie M. Day, lot 6, block 2, \$10.

Fourth street, between D and E streets—Joseph M. Carnody to Elizabeth C. Knapp, lot 25, square 419.

212 Florida avenue northwest—William P. Soley et ux. to Robert H. McNeill, lot 26, square 224, \$10.

Second street, between First and Second streets—John Cook et ux. to Fred C. Jones, part original lots 2 and 3, square north of square 113, \$10.

1921 N street northwest—Harrison G. Lyster et ux. to Mary P. Harper, lot 61, square 215, \$10.

Holmes Manor—Harry Wardman to George W. and Lillie M. Heim, lot 8, block 42, \$10.

Kentucky avenue southeast between D and E streets—Lawrence E. Maher et ux. to Lucy H. Diver, lot 66, square 410, \$10.

Effingham place—Mary E. Clark to Franklin P. Nash, part lot 13, block 17, lot 14, block 17, square 355, \$10.

Islerwood—Catherine Bonner to James A. Davis, lot 166, block 27, \$10.

Washington Heights—Charlotte Dalley to Addie A. Barrett, lot 97, block 8, \$10.

Center Erection—Allen D. Deason to J. S. Schenck et ux. to Luella B. Deason, lot 20, square 353, \$10.

Fifth and L streets northeast and Sixth street northeast between L and M streets—John Cook, trustee, to Arthur Carr and William McK. Clayton, trustees, part square 330 and parts lots 61 and 62, square 335, \$10.

Elizabeth Shoemaker, property in will of Lloyd Moxley, \$10.

21st street northeast—Harriet S. Turner to John T. Meany, lot 49, square 69, \$10.

Washington—Aquila R. Yeakle et ux. to Daniel D. and Frances V. Cameron, part lot 5, block 4, \$10.

1021 Park View terrace—William A. Geiseler et ux. to William J. Kehoe, lot 22, block 1, \$10.

## HISTORIC FARM IS SOLD IN LOUDOUN FOR \$42,000

One of the largest deal in Loudoun county property ever made in this section is reported by the Soule Company, who have just sold for Dr. H. B. Hutchison, of Herndon, Va., his extensive plantation of 1,833 acres, located in the northern part of Loudoun county, about two miles from Ashburn Station.

The farm has a frontage of two miles on the upper Potomac. It has several dwellings and two large orchards, together with barns that can stall 300 cattle and ample capacity for the storage of a large quantity of hay, agricultural implements, and other purposes.

It has one of the largest silos in the country, which will hold from 700 to 1,000 tons.

Years ago this farm was a noted trading post between Maryland and Virginia, and the old stone jail in which slaves were confined is still standing and in good condition. It is now used as a smoke-house. The Alexandria and Leesburg turnpike leads direct from the plantation to Washington, about twenty-five miles distant.

Dr. Hutchison purchased the property from the Yeomans estate only a short time since. The new owner is J. G. Hopkins, of Connecticut, and the purchase price was \$42,000. He contemplates extensive improvements in the near future.

## PARIS IS THE MECCA OF BICYCLE POLICE

Although Paris only developed her modern system of bicycle mounted police in 1901, that city finds good use for 600 mounted officers.

To realize how great a number this is in comparison with the municipal squads in this country, the fact may be pointed out that the 100 largest cities in the United States only use half this number. Chicago, for instance, has not a single wheel owned by the police department. Since its enlargement in 1900 the bicycle division has become one of the most popular branches in the Paris police system, and the authorities are considering expanding it still further, as the bicycle has answered certain peculiar requirements of police work in Paris with an efficiency that has made it indispensable.

It is used for far more important work than merely chasing "scorchers," too. It provides a method for patrolling great stretches of territory that it would be impractical to attempt to protect by men on foot or even on horses, and the happy faculty of the bicycle policemen in gliding up silently to the scene of any trouble or disturbance on the streets at night has had a most beneficial effect in discouraging crime.

### WHY HE DID IT.

"Some of these prophets," said Thomas W. Lawson, "trained me of the blind beggar's hat and exclaimed in a benevolent voice: 'There, my poor fellow, is a quarter for you.' 'Why on earth,' said the man's companion, 'did you give him a nickel and say it was a quarter?' 'Oh,' was the reply, 'I wanted to cheer him up.'—Exchange.

## FIRE LOSS \$36,972, ONE ALARM FROM TREE

Fires in December caused an estimated loss of \$36,972, according to the monthly report of the Fire Department to the District Commissioners. To cover this loss was insurance of \$310,680, the loss amounting to 12 per cent of the total insurance.

Of the eighty-nine fires, fifty-six were in brick and twenty-three were in frame buildings, one was for the burning of an oil lantern box, two for the burning of leaves, one for a fire in a tree, three for the burning of brush, two for fires in automobiles, and one for the burning of a trestle.

There was but one fire during the month for which an additional alarm was sounded, that being a fire in the wallpaper watercoms of E. N. Richards, 1339 G street northwest. For this fire a second and special alarm was sounded, the estimated loss was \$23,000.

## WARDMAN OPENS GROUND FOR SEVENTEEN HOUSES

Ground has been broken within the last week by Harry Wardman for seventeen houses on Fourteenth street extended. The houses will be in two blocks, nine in one north of Shepherd street, and eight in the other to the south, giving two good corner houses.

The building of these dwellings demonstrates the rapid extension of good houses out Fourteenth street. These residences will range in price from \$5,000 to \$7,500, and will contain six, eight, and nine rooms on two floors. The heating is to be by hot water.

The architecture is to be of colonial design with separate porches. The fronts are each twenty feet in width. Shannon & Luchs will have the sale of the two rows.

## WORK BEING HASTENED ON BRADFORD BUILDING

Work in changing the old Carlow Hotel and the adjoining residences on Fourteenth street facing Franklin Park is now progressing at a rapid rate. Workmen have already torn out the fronts of these buildings, and the aspect of the block, so long one of the best residence portions of the city, is even now one of business.

Mr. Bradford is spending \$30,000 in remodeling the property, and Boss & Phelps report that they have received applications for every room.

They have also announced the lease for a three-year term of the first floor of 904 Fourteenth street to a milliner at an annual rental of \$1,200. By March 1 it is expected that the changes will be complete and the building ready for occupancy. All the space will be utilized for business, with the exception of the third floors, which will be arranged as six-room apartments.

## Chicago Follows New York Idea Of Later Show

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Following the lead of the "Licensed" Association in reverting to the former midwinter dates for its annual shows in Madison Square Garden, the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers has decided to hold its next annual show in Chicago the first week in February, 1908, or two weeks later than the Garden show.

This was the most interesting result of a meeting in this city yesterday of the executive committee of the N. A. A. M. Technically the subject of shows was referred to the show committee, which then decided to formally make the recommendation of a later date at the next executive committee meeting.

A proposition to establish a comprehensive traffic department was referred to the transportation committee.

## CHANGES PROPOSED IN AUTOMOBILE LAW

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 11.—Members of the New Jersey Automobile Association met here yesterday and adopted the following new amendments to the Frelinghuysen automobile law, which will be pushed in the Legislature, which convenes next Tuesday.

First—All horse-drawn vehicles to carry lights at night.

Second—Autoists of foreign states to be given ten days' right to tour State without registering here.

Third—All licenses to run out December 31 of the year, and tags to be furnished by the State.

Fourth—A higher fee for licenses to go to the highway commissioners for road repairs.

Fifth—Making it a misdemeanor for a drunken man to drive a machine, and for any one to throw glass or other brittle substance on the road.

Sixth—All fines must be reported to Automobile inspectors the day fine is imposed and all moneys from fines turned in within thirty days.

Seventh—Abolition of the personal registration idea, thus saving State about \$20,000 for maintaining offices over State.

Clubs represented at the meeting were: Hackensack, Newark, Jersey City, Camden, Wildwood, Paterson, Atlantic City, and Mercer county.

### HIS GRADE.

Knicker—Has his cigar got a band around it?

Bocker—No, a megaphone.—New York Sun.

## Old Carlow Hotel Remodeled; Business Invades Franklin Park



Old Carlow Hotel, Opposite Franklin Park, Which Is Being Remodeled for Business Purposes.

## Ben Bradford Makes Extensive Improvements in Fourteenth Street Property.

Within the past week workmen have torn out the entire front of the old Carlow Hotel and the adjoining residences on Fourteenth street, opposite Franklin Park, preparatory to its transformation into the Bradford business block. By March 1 this square, until recently one of the most popular residence sections of the city, will have become another addition to the business part of the city. Ben Bradford is spending \$30,000 in remodeling the property here, which he purchased last summer.

Phelps report that they have received applications for every room. The top floor will, however, be fitted up as apartments of six rooms each.

Boss & Phelps, the agents in charge of the property, say that they already have applications for all of the space, and that a lease of three years at an annual rental of \$1,200 has been given on one of the first floors to a milliner.

The changing of this block into a business section marks still further the progress of the development of business toward the northwest.

## HOW ALTITUDES AFFECT TIRES

"The deleterious effect of high altitudes on pneumatic tires," says W. Smalley Daniels, of the Elastic Tire Filler Company, "does not at first glance seem apparent."

"In reality the explanation is very simple. The atmosphere as well as the rubber offers the necessary resistance to the outward pressure of the compressed air in the tire to prevent the tire from exploding. In high altitudes the rarified atmosphere offers less resistance to the outward pressure of the compressed air in the tires. Consequently any reduction of the resistance of the rubber by even very little wear or a puncture tends in the light atmosphere to bring about the conclusion of the tire in a blow-out."

"In Denver, Col., for example, there are far more tire blow-outs than in New York or Philadelphia, or Boston, which are but little above sea level. I discovered this peculiar condition with regard to altitudes and pneumatic tires on my recent trip to Denver, where I found a warm reception awaited the Elastic Tire Filler, inasmuch as the use of this filler in a pneumatic tire instead of air makes blow-outs, of course, impossible, with no loss in resiliency and the additional advantage of making punctures harmless."

### FINE WORK.

The camel's hair shawl that can be drawn through a lady's finger ring is not a fiction. I saw one about two yards square that could be drawn through a small ring just as easily as if it were a cambric handkerchief ten inches square. And it was entirely hand woven. In former days one of these shawls was regarded as the most costly and acceptable of presents. Those of today are cheap imitations.

A New York buyer of Oriental fineries, such as rugs, carpets, tapestries, shawls, laces and embroideries, spending most of his time between Calcutta and Ispahan, said in a lecture: "A heathen girl of thirteen years, a Hindoo, by the use of her hands simply, can surpass in delicacy and fineness of texture the production of the most perfect machinery in the manufacture of cotton and muslin cloths. In America cotton has been spun so fine that it would require a thread 400 miles in length to weigh one pound, but the Hindoo girl has, by her hand, wrought a thread which would extend 1,000 miles to the pound. The delicate muslins of her handiwork, when spread on the ground and covered with dew, are no longer visible. The spider's web cannot be much finer than this. Shall we believe the statement?—New York Press.

## No Fairy Tale! No Pipe Dream! Just Listen!

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 11.—Automobiles who have made energetic objection to the exactions of the New Jersey motor vehicle law so far as regards the fees required before cars may be driven over the roads of the Mosquito State may take some slight comfort from the fact that the State is spending some of the money to promote the safety of motorists.

"Go slow," in big letters on a black signboard placed at the right hand side of the road, is the warning that greets them wherever danger lurks. During the last year \$4,000 of the income derived from license fees has been expended in placing such signs at places that were considered perilous. An unusual number of them are to be seen in the southern portion of the State near the seashore resorts.

When "Hidden Bridges" Threaten.

Wherever a bad stretch of roadbed exists, wherever there is an especially sharp turn, some hidden bridge, uncertain passage through a woods or anything that would endanger the motorist in the least there a signboard has been erected.

The boards have been erected at such an elevation and at such a distance from the danger spot that they are visible a long distance away, and the motorist running at high speed is allowed time to slacken the pace of his car before he reaches the section of the road where the danger exists.

And Railroads, Too.

Nearly all the railroad grade crossings have also been protected in a similar manner, but here a larger sign with the warning "Railroad Grade Cross—Listen" has been placed. The sign crossings in the southern part of the State and in the northern portion as well are now guided in this manner, and where the crossing is considered more than ordinarily dangerous the "Go Slow" sign has also been added.

The work is to be continued, and will extend more largely toward the northern and eastern portions of the State than it has thus far.

Full Particulars.

It is well known that with the threatened scarcity of the gasoline supply a number of manufacturers are investigating the possibilities of other fuels, and it is in line with such investigations that the Hol-Tan Company has taken up the study of benzol.

Benzol consists of a mixture of benzene, toluene, and xylene. It commences to distill at about 176 degrees Fahrenheit, and does not completely distill over until nearly 248 degrees Fahrenheit is reached. Its calorific value is about 20,000 B. T. U.

Its specific gravity is about .885, and it contains about 82 per cent carbon and 18 per cent hydrogen. It is a water-white liquid, which is produced as a byproduct in the manufacture of coal gas.

Although benzol does not gasify quite as readily as gasoline, it can be used in an ordinary gasoline motor with very slight changes in the carburetor. As a motor develops more power when running on benzol than it does when running on gasoline, it follows that less benzol will be used by a car in covering a given distance than gasoline.

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